

Interpreting and Society (A704080)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0

Study time 90 h

Course offerings in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Verhulst, Susan

LW22

staff member

Maryns, Katrijn

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Applied Language Studies)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)	3	A
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Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)	3	A
Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)	3	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Language and context; Sociolinguistics; Linguistic diversity and inequality; Indexicality; Discourse representation; Interpreter ethics; Professional conduct; Institutional contexts.

Position of the course

This study unit aims to teach students to think critically about language, representation and interpreting as a social practice. Based on a pragmatic-

contextual and sociolinguistic perspective on interpreted interaction, this course unit aims to provide insight into the role and responsibility of the interpreter in representing the discourse and social identity of foreign language speakers in various institutional contexts. In addition, it aims to encourage students to delve deeper into the main ethical principles and challenges faced by social and sworn interpreters in their professional practice.

Contents

1. Critical analysis of the impact of discourse representation on the construction of social identity in institutional contexts.
2. Academic reflection and closer study of interpreted interaction using sociolinguistic concepts (indexicality, repertoire, superdiversity, inequality and voice).
3. Discussion of ethical principles and the role of the interpreter using case studies
4. Interprofessional training in which students are immersed in the work field and the deontology of legal, health and asylum interpreters.
5. Intervision, in which students engage in dialogue with academic experts in a specific interpreting field (medical, legal, asylum and migration).

Initial competences

The general competences that may be expected from an academic bachelor in a course-related discipline. Important: this course unit involves academic reflection on the student's own interpreting experience. Students therefore must combine this course unit with both general and specialised interpreting practice courses in at least one of their foreign languages.

Final competences

- 1 To have an advanced understanding of the impact of discourse representation on the construction of social identity in institutional contexts.
- 2 To reflect critically on the role and responsibilities of interpreters in society from a contextual approach to interpreted interaction.
- 3 To be able to analyze authentic case studies in a critical and scientifically founded way, using sociolinguistic concepts.
- 4 To be able to adequately apply the acquired knowledge about the ethical conduct and the work field of the interpreter in concrete interpreting situations.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Extra information on the teaching methods

- *Lecture* (response college): teaching matter is discussed in an interactional and demand-driven way, on the basis of case studies (*independent preparation* of articles, case studies is required)
- *Lecture (response college)*: exploration of institutional contexts (legal interpreting/ medical interpreting/ asylum interpreting) with guest speakers from the work field
- *Microteaching*: intervision in which students actively engage in dialogue with interpreting researchers on the basis of a scientific article and a case study on a specific interpreting-related topic

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Interpreting and Society

Indicative price: € 15

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Number of Pages : 150

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

References

- Blommaert, J. (2005). *Discourse. A Critical Introduction*. Cambridge University Press.
- Gavioli, L. & Wadensjö, C. (2023) *The Routledge handbook of public service interpreting*. Routledge.
- Hale, S. (2007). *Community Interpreting*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- Inghilleri, M. (2012). *Interpreting Justice: Ethics, Politics and Language*. Routledge.
- Tipton, R. & Furmanek, O. (2016) *Dialogue interpreting: A guide to interpreting in public services and the community*. Routledge.
- Valero-Garcés, C. & Tipton, R. (2017). Ideology, ethics and policy development in public service interpreting and translation. *Multilingual Matters*.
- Wadensjö, C. (1998) *Interpreting as Interaction*. Longman.

Course content-related study coaching

By appointment

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment, Participation, Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment, Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

(PE1/ PE2) Written examination with open questions

- Conceptual-theoretical question (based on the syllabus)

- Literature question (based on the compulsory reading list)

- Analysis of a case

Students answer 1 question of their choice orally.

(NPE) Presence, preparation and active participation in the interviews

Calculation of the examination mark

Combination of continuous assessment (participation during interviews, i.e. 20% of the total score) and end-of-term evaluation (written open book exam, i.e. 80% of the total score).

Facilities for Working Students

Can be requested from the learning track counsellor.

Addendum

A4D0